MY LORD SACKVILLE.

HE IS THE BRITISH MINISTER TO THE UNITED STATES.

And He Has Kicked Up a Great Row by Writing a Letter Giving His Opinion of American Institutions—History of His Lordship.

At the head of the diplomatic circle—one of the most exclusive of the innumerable circles of Washington—stands the British minister.

The present British minister is now known as Lord Sackville. He was called Sir Lionel Sackville West until about a month ago, when his elder brother conveniently died in England, and he became Lord Sackville.

His lordship made a good deal of a sensation not long ago by airing his political views in a letter to an inquiring Englishman of California.

His letter indicated that he had no particular fondness for the institutions of the United States.

Lord Sackville is the son of the fifth Earl of Warr, and was born July 19, 1827. He entered the diplomatic service in 1847 as attache to the legation at Lisbon. In 1853 he was appointed first paid attache at Berlin, and secretary of legation at Turin in 1858; was charge d'affaires from August to November and for some months during the years 1859 and 1863. He was then transferred to Madrid, and in 1867 promoted to be secretary of embassy at Berlin, and minister plenipotentiary at Paris during the absence of the ambassador in 1868 and 1869. He was charge des archives for a short time in 1871, and was again minister plenipotentiary from Sept. 19 to Dec. 6, 1871, and from Aug. 20 to Nov. 7, 1872. Promoted to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Argentine Republic in September, 1872, he was transferred to Spain in 1878 and to Washington in 1881. He was made a K. C. M. G. in 1885. He is a man of wealth, and when his brother died the estate, which is very valuable, of course devolved upon Lord Sackville. This brother, by the way, was a curious sort of a fellow in many ways, and one of the last things he did before shuffling off the mortal coil was peculiar, as things go nowadays. He bequeathed in his will $50,000 each to five of the queen's maids of honor.

LORD SACKVILLE.

Lord Sackville is allowed $50,000 a year by his government for entertaining. Nearly all the ministers to the United States are allowed a certain amount to keep their end up in the whirl of Washington society. Minister Roustan, the French minister, for instance, gets $20,000 a year for this purpose solely—and he doesn't spend a cent of it.

He banks it.

He wines and dines at other people's receptions.

Lord Sackville spends every cent of his allowance—probably more. His receptions and balls are grand affairs. They are attended by people from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and everybody that is anybody in Washington. The residence of the legation is one of the finest buildings in the city. The ballrooms are vast. The favors of the balls are from Paris; the wines are half a century old; the flowers are cut from the hothouses of the legation; the music is furnished by the artists of the country.

And yet a ball at the British legation, grand and impressive though it may be, is not half so comfortable or jolly as a ball at most any place but the British legation.

This is on account of a certain air of snobbery that seems to prevail over the whole thing. A young clerk to one of the secretaries of the legation will treat a justice of the supreme court or a United States senator superciliously, offering him a finger to shake. They seem to be intensely bored on account of their obligation to attend an official reception to an American herd—the herd being a congregation of the finest people in the United States, and the clerk being usually the son of a butcher or shrimp seller in England.

Funny, isn't it?

Lord Sackville has three beautiful daughters—Victoria, Flora and Amala. They are all charming girls. Victoria is the eldest, and has presided over her father's house for five years. Miss Flora was married last June to M. Gabriel Salanson. Miss Amala made her debut last winter, and is the most popular of the three.

Omaha's New Bridge.

For many years there was but one bridge between Council Bluffs, Ia., and Omaha, Neb., and that was the Union Pacific's railroad's structure. One of the strangest sights to the eastern man visiting the two cities on the Big Muddy was the long train of box cars without ends, coupled close together and with their ends removed into which the man

NEW BRIDGE AT OMAHA.

who wished to cross the river with a wagon must drive and be taken across by a locomotive. Now all this is changed. The handsome new structure here pictured has just been opened and is located half a mile to the south of the old bridge. It is fitted with footways, driveways and a line of rail on which electric cars travel swiftly and almost noiselessly back and forth. Both Omaha and Council Bluffs hope for great things from the new bridge.

Scattering Votes in New York.

In New York state previous to 1886 the tables as published lump many votes together as "scattering." Of these 11,974 in 1882 were cast for Howe, Greenback candidate for governor, and 7,221 in 1883 for the Greenback candidate for secretary of state. In the latter year the Prohibition candidate for secretary had 18,816 votes. In 1884 two judges of the court of appeals (the court of last resort, as the supreme court is elsewhere) were re-elected almost unanimously, receiving 1,089,414 votes against 31,596 for all others. These were Judges Andrews and Rapallo.